

HIGH FINANCE CALLS A HALT PROFIT IS LOOT WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER?

BY JOHN RAK

Great capital has at length spoken out pretty clearly in the resolutions adopted a few days ago by the United States Chamber of Commerce. Pretty clearly, but perhaps not so fully nor with so much emphasis as it will speak later on.

In the spring and summer of 1933 practically the whole capitalist class was in a state of bewilderment and panic fear. This was not due to the outcome of the 1932 election, nor to any manifestations of popular unrest that had taken place. What puzzled the capitalists and literally "scared them stiff" was the fact that the economic crisis, after running its course for three fiscal years, working ruin in the fields of industry and of commerce, had finally begun to work ruin in the financial field as well.

The really powerful capitalists—which in our day means the financiers—had flattered themselves that, no matter what disaster might befall manufacturers and mine owners, railway corporations and mercantile houses and, of course, millions upon millions of wage workers and working farmers, their great financial institutions were safe and sound as the rock of Gibraltar. In February, 1933, they had a rude awakening. Banks and trust companies began to crack and fall, each dragging others down with it.

The super-capitalists were dazed. They momentarily lost faith in their system and in themselves. And so they raised no protest when the incoming President demanded and a frightened and self-distrustful Congress voted to him what might almost be called dictatorial powers. The capitalists never liked the New Deal, but they had nothing to offer instead. At any rate, it was not chaos. It would give them time to turn around. They endured it, because they did not know what else to do.

Two years have gone by. The

capitalists do not understand the situation any better than they did in 1933, but they have got out of their blue funk. They are inclined to think once more that God's in his heaven and all's well with the world—not quite well, perhaps, but by no means so ill as they had feared. For them, the New Deal has served its purpose. The emergency is past. Now we may think of "getting back to normalcy."

"The Moor has done his work—the Moor may go." They won't be too rough about it. NIRA was extended for a few months. They will even consider the propriety of enacting, some time or other, some possible measures of so-

cial legislation. Some time or other—upon mature consideration—after we've got business to running well in its old grooves. But not this year, nor next—oh, no? Thank you kindly, Mr. President, for what you've done so far, but please don't go any farther until we give the word.

And their next word will be a sharper one.

The New Leader.

Consent or Combat

Free speech and free press are much more than safety valves on the boiler of discontent. They are the indispensable requirements of peaceful and orderly progress, for it is only in the free clash of opinion that consent may triumph over combat.—A. G.

IT DOES MOVE!

By John M. Work

It is always encouraging when you can detect a slight movement of the average human mind—provided it is not a backward movement.

So little does the average human mind move, that it has the appearance of a stagnant pool. Not a case of "still waters run deep," for it is shallow. But the appearance is deceptive; it does move slightly. Over a period of years you can detect it.

A slight movement forward may be seen in the average mind's reaction toward old age pensions. Most people favor them now.

Only a few years ago, their reaction was quite different. You could tell them that retired generals, retired judges and widows of deceased Presidents got big pensions, that a general is of no more importance than a shop worker, that a judge is of no more importance than a farmer, that a President's widow is of no more importance than a working-man's widow, that those who do the useful work should be the first to be pensioned, and that if anyone should do without pensions it should be the generals, the judges and the President's widows who are well-to-do and do not need them—but, so asked was the average mind that the average man threw up his hands and exclaimed that an old age pension would pauperize a factory worker. It was not explained why it would not pauperize a general, a judge or a President's widow.

Maybe you won't believe it, but that is exactly the species of absurd argument we had to meet, only ten years ago, when we were contending for old age pensions.

The average mind has abandoned that ridiculous position. The average man and the average woman are heartily in favor of old pensions now. Likewise of unemployment insurance. We are not certain, but we rather believe the average person would also sanction socialized health service.

We state these facts for your encouragement. The average mind is not altogether stagnant; it does move slightly. The movement is provokingly slow, and it is no wonder you become impatient—but it does move!

What must be thought of those who vote more highly their chance to get things unjustly for their elve—things they do not need—than they do the getting of things justly by others vitally needed? Is not their the crime of all crimes? Is it any less a crime to prevent people from obtaining means of life than to steal, rob or murder?

And yet what is the ideal of to-day? Is not the wrong of the non-producer held above the right of the producer? What's the relationship of he who produced a thousand, yet has a million, to the thousand who produced a million and between all of them have only a thousand? Are facts in nature to be trifled with? Is there no consequence when the word loot is changed to profit just to cover up a theft?

How far has humanity fallen when it says, "We must not give up our right to loot"? And "Our loot will become thin if loot is denied them"? Also, "Unless we allow loot we will lose our jobs"? And our preachers, we can name them, stand in the pulpit, and are quoted in the papers "We stand by the loot system"? And we, ourselves, vote to elect people who say openly "We stand for loot"? And we elect them, knowing and expecting that they, in their official capacity will keep us from working.

The word profit means that which is obtained for which no equivalent is given. If it does not mean that, why do those who get it so insistently demand it? If they are willing to work for what they get, why not join with workers in production on equitable basis? Facts on the face of things.

The loot system! That is what we have! Yet, this is the truth.

We, the race, are only young—infantile. All infants wobble and fall down. They try many ways before the right one.—Llano Colonist.

A RAP FOR HEARST

We should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe.—The late Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes.

The Men Of The Future

These things shall be; a nobler race
Then e'er the world has known shall rise,
With flame of freedom in their souls
And light of knowledge in their eyes.

They shall be gentle, brave and strong
To spill no drop of blood, but dare
All that may plant man's lordship firm
On earth, and fire, and sea, and air.

Nation with nation, land with land
Unarmed shall live as comrades free;
In every heart and brain shall throb
The pulse of one fraternity.

J. A. SYMONDS.

WARNS OF FASCIST TINGE IN NEW MOVEMENTS

Promises of "painless cure" for the depression which leave the capitalist system intact, as embodied in the programs of Father Coughlin, Huey Long and others are "puerile and impossible," as well as "strongly tinged with Fascism," in the opinion of the national executive committee of the Socialist party.

The committee's statement follows: "To the masses of the American people it is becoming increasingly clear that the new deal cannot fulfill its promises to end their suffering without any serious disturbance to their accustomed economic system, capitalism. The predictable result is the appearance of numerous movements making still more fantastic promises of painless cure, based upon still more puerile and impossible economics than those of the new deal.

"The majority of these movements are strongly tinged with Fascism, or at least with ideas similar to those which marked the early stages of the Fascist movements now rampant in Europe. Because of their extravagant promises, they are making a tremendous, though doubtless temporary, appeal to the masses, and Socialists are frequently tempted to offer their cooperation, either because they have been confused by some superficial resemblance between the aims of these movements and those of true Socialism, or in the hopes of capturing the movement or winning converts to Socialism.

"The N. E. C. issues an emphatic warning against such tactics. There can be no short cut to Socialism, and any diversion of energy into such channels will only confuse and embarrass the Socialist movement, leading to endless disputes, misunderstanding and disappointments. Utopia, Inc., Share the Wealth and the National Union for Social Justice are not only futile but dangerous because of their Fascist tendencies, and we declare that connection with any of these organizations is to be regarded as conduct unbecoming a Socialist.

While the Townsend clubs are not Fascist in spirit, they are for the most part transient and futile, and their proposal to finance pensions by a sales tax is, of course, utterly repugnant to Socialist theory. It is just possible that in special circumstances, where the Townsend idea has galvanized into action a vigorous, though economically inexperienced group, it may be worth while for seasoned and thoroughly grounded Socialists to make contacts with them in the attempt to transfer their activity from the false foundation on which it is based to the substantial foundation of true Socialism. In general, Socialists should steer clear of them."

THE THING TO FIGHT FOR

By NORMAN THOMAS

The things for which labor should fight are unchanged. They include:

Real Security legislation—in Congress the Lundeen Bill; in Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Wisconsin the Socialist bills—not the President's miscalled Security bill.

The Wagner Bill protecting labor organization, strengthened by amendments, particularly by extending its provisions to agricultural labor.

The 30-hour week bill; not as a cure all but a help in the fight against unemployment.

Federal anti-lynching legislation. Congressional investigation of the exploitation of share croppers.

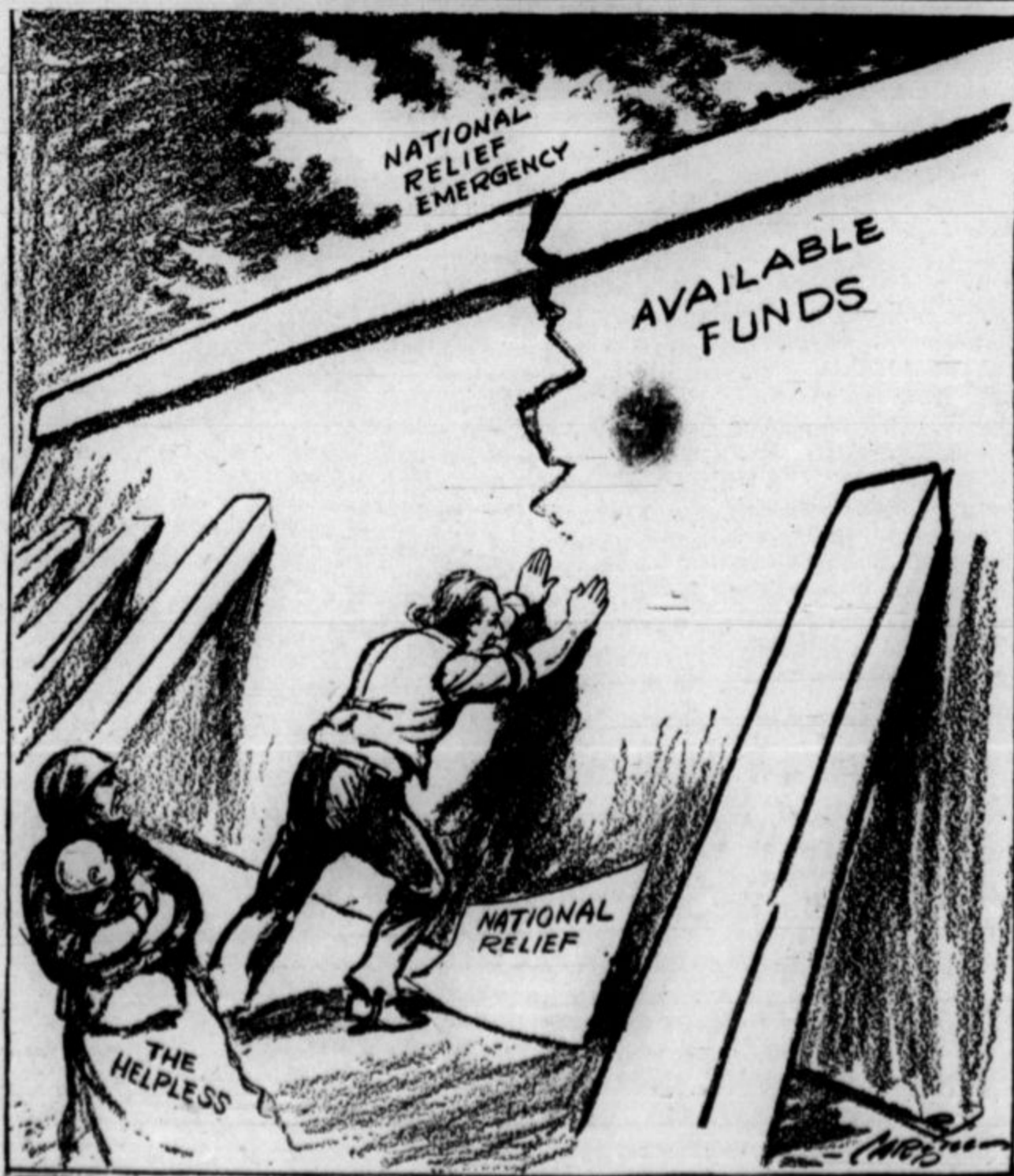
Labor should fight AGAINST:

Extension of NRA.

The big army and navy bills desired by all imperialists, fascists, and enemies of labor.

All forms of the sales tax—that means adequate income and inheritance taxation instead.

IS THE WALL BEGINNING TO CRACK



Our governor went before his constituents to tell them about the catastrophe which confronts the people of Illinois if the increase in the sales tax is not voted by the assembly on Tuesday. He nearly cried for the needy in the old hypocritical political way. His heart just bled for the miserable wretches and the only way out that he could see was the sales tax. It is too bad that the Socialist Party isn't strong enough to have been able to answer on the radio and to have urged the Illinoisians to just flood the legislators with demands that they vote against the sales tax. There are any number of other means of raising the required amount to satisfy the Federal government so that federal funds may be procured. What's the matter with a state income tax on incomes of \$5000.00 or more? My guess is that the sales tax will be increased because the people, although they abhor it, stand passively by. The Socialist Party in Illinois had a grand opportunity to whip the old politicians in this game but we weren't equal to the task. We have no money and where there isn't any money there can't be much action.

liticians of the corrupt machines want to teach the educators a thing or two and prescribe laws to remedy truthful teachings.

I have just read an account of the Toledo auto strike settlement and it just makes me dispise certain leaders of the A. F. of L. After the men have waged such a courageous and unified struggle to gain anything but the entire demands is sickening. It is reported that in the conversations between the strikers' committee and the management the A. F. of L. leaders urged the strikers to settle and stood by the company officials rather than by the militant workers. What is more nauseating, the union was supposed to have been read out of the A. F. of L. because it wouldn't settle when Dillon the A. F. of L. organizer wanted them to. It isn't bad enough to have the company thugs and gunman, the politicians, the police and militia on the side of the company. Union officials, who are supposed to help strikers, give their support to the enemy of unionism. That's a fine how do you do. What the consideration was none can say but it certainly looks as if someone was paid off.

A lot of exciting things happened in Chicago in recent weeks. The democrat who was city clerk for 24 years in our fine city was promoted to the treasurer by the voters at the last election because in his clerkship he had stolen enough but he could steal more as treasurer. Anyway, the new democratic city clerk must have smelled the bad odor when he took office and had the books examined. They say only \$400,000 are lacking. And the old city clerk says if I am short I'll pay for I have the money in the bank. By the next election the people will forget all about the steal and reelect the crook again. It's the same old story all over again.

The other important thing that happened was the investigation of the University of Chicago by our State senate committee, for communistic teachings. It is a shame that the people of Illinois must pay for such investigations when the money seems to be so badly needed by the relief administration. Old man Walgreen, the drug store magnate, had some silly charges against the University. It proved to be a fizzle for, he couldn't prove anything. But Walgreen got his satisfaction. When he first withdrew his niece from the University and fired the charges he demanded a public hearing. The President of the University and the Trustees couldn't see it that way so he stirred up the poor politicians at Springfield to investigate. And like a lot of dunces they fell in line. Now the hearings are public. And the po-

THE RACE WITH THE REAPER

Why should anyone less than a hundred years old die?

Two reasons: Ignorance and capitalism.

Ignorance includes lack of the will and the self-control to do the right thing, as well as lack of knowledge.

Capitalism prevents most people from doing the right thing even when they know what to do.

There is no inherent reason why the average person should not live far beyond the century mark before the swish of Father Time's scythe cuts him or her down, and be in good physical and mental health all the while.

It can be done by gaining knowledge and Socialism.

—The Milwaukee Leader.

In A Land Of Plenty

Almost a third of the workers in Dayton, Ohio, who constitute about two fifths of the total population, are unemployed, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration estimates on the basis of a study made in July, 1934.

LEAVE IT TO FAITH

"Rebirth of faith would improve the lot of virtually every family in the land. It would raise the financial and spiritual level of the wage-earning classes."—B. C. Forbes, Hearst business writer.